

In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A vertical cavity surface emitting laser (VCSEL) comprising:

~~a vertical cavity region;~~

an active region;

a contact region in at least one side of the active region providing current to be distributed through the active region; and

a stabilizer module for stabilizing the modal gains ~~among a plurality of modes of multiple modes of the VCSEL induced by spatial power instability~~ by increasing the current through the contact region[;]

~~and a pumping means for exciting the VCSEL laser to emit light.~~

2. (Original) The VCSEL as recited in claim 1 wherein the VCSEL is an oxide VCSEL.

3. (Currently Amended) The VCSEL as recited in claim 1 wherein the VCSEL is ~~used~~ adapted to use in high-speed communication links over a multimode fiber.

4. (Currently Amended) A vertical cavity surface emitting laser (VCSEL) used in a multi-channel system, the VCSEL comprising:

an active region;

a contact region in at least one side of the active region providing current to be distributed through the active region; and

a stabilizer module for stabilizing ~~the modal gains among a plurality of modes of multiple modes of the VCSEL induced by spatial power instability~~ by increasing the current through the contact region.

5. (Original) The VCSEL as recited in claim 4 wherein the VCSEL is an oxide VCSEL.

6. (Currently Amended) The VCSEL as recited in claim 4 wherein the VCSEL is ~~used~~ adapted to use in high-speed communication links over a multimode fiber.

7. (Previously presented) A method for stabilizing modes in VCSEL, said method comprising:

generating a plurality of modes within said VCSEL;

determining whether the modes in the VCSEL are unstable based on changes in operating characteristics of the VCSEL;

generating an adjustable bias current for stabilizing the modes in the VCSEL; and

adjusting bias current of the VCSEL to stabilize the modes to compensate for the changes in the operating characteristics.

8. (Original) The method as recited in claim 7 wherein the VCSEL is an oxide VCSEL.

9. (Original) The method as recited in claim 7 wherein the step of adjusting bias current further comprises adjusting bias current up to a saturation level of the VCSEL.

10. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 7 wherein the VCSEL is ~~used~~ adapted to use in high-speed communication links over a multimode fiber.

11. (Currently Amended) A system for stabilizing modes in a VCSEL, said system comprises:

a first module in communication with a VCSEL, wherein said first module is used for determining whether the modes in the VCSEL are unstable based on changes of the operating characteristics; and

a second module in communication with a VCSEL, wherein said second module is used for adjusting bias current of the VCSEL to stabilize the modes to compensate for the changes in the operating characteristics.

12. (Original) The system as recited in claim 11 wherein the VCSEL is an oxide VCSEL.

13. (Previously presented) The system as recited in claim 11 wherein the bias current is adjusted up to the saturation level of the VCSEL.

14. (Currently Amended) The system L as recited in claim 11 wherein the VCSEL is ~~used~~ adapted to use in applications of 1.2 Gb/s and 2.5 Gb/s frequencies.

15. (Currently Amended) The system as recited in claim 11 wherein the VCSEL is ~~used~~ adapted to use in high-speed communication links over a multimode fiber.

16. (Previously presented) A stabilizer module in communication with a VCSEL, the stabilizer module comprising:

a power module for measuring spatial and spectral power of the VCSEL;

a determination module for determining whether the spatial and spectral power of the VCSEL is unstable because of modal gains; and

a current module for increasing bias current to a level where the VCSEL is stable if it is determined that the VCSEL is not stable.

17. (Original) The stabilizer module as recited in claim 16 wherein the VCSEL is an oxide VCSEL.

18. (Original) The stabilizer module as recited in claim 16 wherein the current module adjusts bias current up to the saturation level of the VCSEL.

19. (Currently Amended) The stabilizer module as recited in claim 16 wherein the VCSEL is ~~used~~ adapted to use in applications of 1.2 Gb/s and 2.5 Gb/s frequencies.

20. (Currently Amended) The stabilizer module as recited in claim 16 wherein the VCSEL is ~~used~~ adapted to use in high-speed communication links over a multimode fiber.

21. (Currently Amended) The VCSEL ~~A vertical cavity means~~ in accordance with claim 1, wherein said ~~vertical cavity~~ active region is defined by a plurality of mirror stacks.

22. (New) The VCSEL as recited in claim 1 wherein instability of the modal gains is induced by spatial power instability in the active region.
